

CROKER WARMS UP

Declares the Committee is Trying to
Ruin His Son.

HE IS TOLD TO KEEP COOL

His Partner, Meyer, Positively Re-
fuses to Answer Questions.

INTERESTING TESTIMONY

NEW YORK, April 15.—The Mazet investigation committee continued its sittings today.

Richard J. Foster was the first witness. He is in the whole retail ice business in this city. As he began to testify Richard Croker, accompanied by his son Frank, entered the court room.

The object of calling Mr. Foster was apparently to prove alleged discrimination by the city government in favor of the Consolidated Ice Company. His testimony was uninteresting and unimportant.

Peter F. Meyer was then called.

He said he was a member of the dock board. He and Mr. Croker were the only members of the real estate firm.

"Prior to the taking of Mr. Croker into your firm you did not have a great many of the judicial sales, did you?" asked Mr. Moss.

"No; but I made more money from other sales, and got twice more than I do now," replied the auctioneer.

Mr. Meyer grows sarcastic.

Mr. Meyer said he made \$100,000 in twelve months. "More than you will ever make in your life at this business," he added, speaking to Mr. Moss.

Mr. Mazet interposed: "You will confine your answers to the questions and not volunteer information."

Mr. Moss sarcastically remarked: "It does not annoy me, Mr. Chairman. I am perfectly willing to have this gentleman talk as much as he pleases. That is part of my business."

Mr. Moss asked if Mr. Meyer's object in speaking to Mr. Croker about going into partnership with him was not to get the benefit of Croker's reputation and influence.

"No," said Mr. Meyer. "It was to get satisfaction out of a certain party that I had a little grudge against."

Further he would not explain.

Mr. Meyer said his firm made about \$3,700 a year out of the judicial sales. It was such a small matter that he did not care anything about it.

Mr. Meyer said that in an indirect way he had approached Mr. Croker in order to be part of the dock board. The witness thought he could do better that way than by speaking to Croker directly.

"And he gave his consent, didn't he?" asked Mr. Moss.

"I suppose he did by having me appointed," said the witness, carelessly.

"Did you appoint, didn't he?" Mr. Moss smiled.

Mr. Meyer in a trap.

"Yes—no, I got my appointment from the mayor," responded Mr. Meyer, seeing the trap into which he had fallen.

Mr. Meyer said he was treasurer of the Tammany Society. He had no official position in the political organization known as Tammany. The society was the old secret society, separate from the organization. Mr. Meyer said he did not hold any stock in the Consolidated Ice Company. He did hold some a year or two ago. He bought it in the open market. Mr. Moss inquired with great curiosity about this. The witness thought he could do better that way than by speaking to Croker directly.

"I won't answer you a single question," Mr. Moss growled, "worn out of Mr. Meyer that he might have bought the stock while a member of the dock board."

Mr. Croker recalled.

Mr. Meyer's examination was suspended and Mr. Croker was recalled.

Mr. Moss recalled the witness' assertion yesterday that if it should be proven that he had ever received any dishonest money from the city he would allow his right arm to be cut off.

"Are you willing to make the proposition that if dishonest money or dishonest transactions are laid at your door you will part with your fortune and part with your liberty?" asked Mr. Moss.

"Yes," said Mr. Croker.

"That is more to the point and more to the purpose," said Mr. Moss, smiling.

Mr. Croker said he was acquainted with John Kelly, sometimes called "Smiling John," who was a gambler. He did not know if Kelly was a member of the firm of Naughton & Company, contractors.

Mr. Croker practically your representative in the firm of Naughton & Company," asked Mr. Moss.

"No," said Mr. Croker. He had never received money from Naughton & Company directly or indirectly, neither had any member of his family that he knew of.

Declines More Questions.

Mr. Moss said he understood Mr. Croker had stated that when he returned from Europe in 1897 he was substantially without any large amount of money. Mr. Croker denied that the statement was true.

Declined to answer whether in 1897 he held stock in the Union railway. "That is my personal affair," said the witness, but he went on to deny his family held any stock in the Union railway at that time. He did not know that his son Richard was a member of the Contractors' Supply Company or that Richard had ever got any money from him (the witness) to go into the company.

"Did you give your son Frank a check for \$17,000 to go into the Roebeling Construction Company?" asked Mr. Moss.

Mr. Croker declined to answer on the ground of "personal business."

Later he said: "While my son has been in the Roebeling company he has never received a contract from the city, so that it does not concern this committee at all."

"I have the utmost confidence in that boy, and if you can destroy him in the city as you are working to do against this committee, you are destroying my son. I will not allow him to go into business I suppose you will do so."

Mr. Mazet: "I hardly think that statement is justified."

"Yes, it is," rejoined Mr. Croker. "Go on and examine Mr. Platt's firm and find out what his boys are up to. You make that honest. You go and examine the people who brought you here to examine us."

"Keep cool, Mr. Croker," interjected Mr. Moss.

Attacks Senator Platt's Firm.

"I am just as cool as you are," came the reply. "That is the gentleman—Mr. Platt—who puts you here to examine us. You go and examine his firm. They are at the foundation of all the corruption in this city. I say that there is more corruption in this firm than there is in the state, there is more corruption in that firm than anywhere else. You go and examine that firm, to be fair, and bring their books here."

Mr. Moss said the matter Mr. Croker had spoken of was in no way connected with the local government. "You make that matter in any way pertinent to this inquiry?"

(Continued on Second Page.)

RAILWAY DEAL COMPLETE

Stockholders of Metropolitan and Columbia Companies Comply With Terms.

Mr. Frederick C. Stevens, the Purchaser, So Notified—Over \$5,000,000 to Change Hands.

Mr. Frederick C. Stevens was today notified by Mr. Charles J. Bell, the president of the American Security and Trust Company, that the stockholders of the Metropolitan street railroad had offered to sell 17,000 or more shares of the stock of that company at the figure given in the agreement made by Mr. Stevens, \$230 per share.

He was also informed that the stockholders of the Columbia Street Railroad Company had offered to sell at the figure named, \$150 per share, 7,000 or more shares of the stock of that company. This action was taken in pursuance of the terms of an agreement made by Mr. Stevens for the purchase of the road.

Mr. Stevens also agreed that, within three days of the receipt of such an offer, he would deposit with the American Security and Trust Company \$300,000. It is understood he will accept the offers made, and that the money will be paid as stipulated. The stockholders of the two companies signing the agreement to sell are required to deposit their stock with the trust company on or before May 1.

The action taken today is one of the last phases in a transaction which, whether considered from the money standpoint or from the property interest involved, is considered to be one of the largest and most important that has been ever made in this city. If Mr. Stevens simply takes the stock that has been now offered, an expenditure will be required of more than \$5,000,000. In addition, however, Mr. Stevens agrees to take all the stock in either company that may be offered and on the same terms.

MARINE CORPS APPOINTMENTS.

Selection of First Lieutenants Announced at the Navy Department.

The Navy Department has announced the appointment of the following first lieutenants in the United States Marine Corps: Henry W. Carpenter, Randolph C. Berkley, A. J. Malthus, Charles G. Anderson, Charles S. Hatch, J. C. Brockbridge, Arthur T. Marx, Philip S. Brown, Harry Lee and Robert T. Carmody.

Of the ninety-two appointments in the Marine Corps authorized by Congress at its last session, about forty will be made from civil life. Secretary Long has decided to apportion these appointments among the states and territories according to population, and it is expected that the names of those nominated by the different states and territorial delegations will be announced in a few weeks. All candidates nominated in this way will be ordered to examination by a board composed of marine officers.

CAPT. WILLIAM E. HORTON.

A Washington Soldier Honored by the President.

William E. Horton, who was appointed an assistant adjutant general, with the rank of captain, in the volunteer army in May last, has relinquished that position in order to accept an appointment as assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain, in the volunteer army, and has been assigned to duty at Augusta, Ga.

READY TO PAY THE \$20,000,000.

The Spanish Government Notified Through the French Embassy.

Through the French embassy the State Department has notified the Spanish government that it stands prepared to pay at any time the \$20,000,000 named in the treaty of peace as the sum to be paid on account of the cessation of the Philippines. The Spanish government has been told that the payment will be made in United States gold coin or in gold bars, at its option, and the only condition attached is that the payment shall be made at New York. It has been suggested that owing to this last requirement the Spanish government might incur substantial loss through the payment of commission necessary to transfer so large a sum of money to the United States. It is pointed out at the State Department, however, that the United States government offers to pay the \$20,000,000 three months in advance of the time allowed by the treaty, and that the interest for that time would very much more than pay the commission on the movement of the gold.

WAR PAY FOR THE TROOPS.

Law Officers Believe Soldiers at Manila Are Entitled to It.

The subject of the 20 per cent additional pay allowed enlisted men during a time of war has been discussed in the War Department, and law officers in the department are of the opinion that the troops in the Philippines will be entitled to the additional pay. While peace has been declared with Spain, it is contended by some that a state of war practically exists in the Philippines, because the fighting is carried on by means of guerrillas, and as the taking of prisoners and their treatment. Officially, however, it is merely an insurrection, and is so recognized by foreign governments. Of course, whatever the controller of the treasury should hold in this connection would be final, as he passes upon the pay accounts of the army.

NAVAL PROMOTIONS.

Made Under the Operations of the Personnel Law.

Promotions in the navy were announced at the Navy Department today as follows: Rear Admirals—W. S. Schley, W. T. Sampson, N. H. Farquhar and G. C. Remey.

Captains—J. Trille, R. A. Reaick, C. Andrade, J. Lowe, L. W. Robinson, E. Longnecker, B. H. McCalla, C. H. Rockwell, J. M. Forsyth, E. C. Craig, C. H. Thomas, E. E. Houston, W. W. Mead, W. H. Brownson, G. C. Reiter, A. S. Snow, J. Entwistle, G. W. Pigman, H. Aston, W. H. Harris, L. J. Allen, J. C. Green, J. McGowan, R. B. Bradford, G. A. Converse.

Lieutenants—W. T. Phelps, S. E. W. Kittelle and A. C. Cole.

Pay directors—G. W. Beaman and Passed Assistant Paymaster George Brown, Jr.

All the above promotions were made under the provisions of the naval personnel law, and are in no sense the result of service during the Spanish war.

Examination for Ordnance Corps.

June 12 has been fixed as the date for the examination of officers who desire to enter the ordnance corps. The examinations will be held at New York, San Francisco, Alaska, Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines.

Remains to Be Brought Home.

Secretary Long has instructed the commandant of the Marine Island yard to procure two metallic caskets and send them out on the Badger to Apla to receive the remains of Lieutenant Lansdale and Ensign Monaghan of the Philadelphia, which will be returned to the United States by burial.

At the White House.

Minister Townsend Appointed Minister to Belgium.

Many Callers on the President.

I. F. Fischer to Be an Appraiser at New York.

PRESS CLUB DELEGATES.

The President today appointed Lawrence Townsend of Pennsylvania to succeed Mr. Bellamy Storer as United States minister to Brussels, Belgium. Mr. Townsend is at present United States minister at Lisbon, and his transfer leaves a vacancy in the Portuguese mission, for which a selection has already been made and will shortly be announced.

Lawrence Townsend, the new minister to Belgium, is a Philadelphian. He was appointed during President Cleveland's administration secretary of legation at Vienna, and there remained until appointed by President McKinley minister to Portugal.

Invited to Pittsburgh.

Mayor Diehl of Pittsburgh, Assistant Postmaster General Schallenberger, Gen. Charles L. Fitzhugh, Capt. J. M. Ray, Maj. Charles P. Powell and Maj. W. H. Davis called on President McKinley today at the White House, and were invited to attend the reunion of the Army of the Potomac in Pittsburgh October 4 and 5. The President said that he could not yet say what his engagements would be at that time.

Appraiser at New York.

The appointment of Israel F. Fischer of New York as appraiser at New York was definitely decided upon by the President this morning. The decision was reached after a conference with Senators Platt and Dewey.

The two New York senators asked the President to attend the dinner to Senator Frye, to be given in New York on the 27th of this month by various commercial organizations, but the President said that he would not be able to leave Washington at that time.

A Valuable Collection of Names.

On the recommendation of Senator Chandler the President has appointed Chas. S. Hill of New Hampshire a lieutenant in the Marine Corps. In calling on the President this morning to thank him for the appointment, Senator Chandler asked the President to place his autograph in a historical book belonging to Lieut. Hill. The book, which is a collection of names of officers who have served in the Marine Corps, was presented to Isaac Anderson Hill, then a boy, by President Van Buren. The book is "The Passion Flower." Isaac Anderson Hill was the son of the famous Senator Hill of New Hampshire, then in the Senate. Mr. Van Buren inscribed his name in the book, which contains the autographs of many celebrated men, among others, of the present Pierce and Harrison. The book was originally presented to Lieut. Hill's father, and is carefully preserved in the family.

Church Property in the Philippines.

It is said that Archbishop Corrigan, who called on President McKinley Thursday night, consulted the chief executive regarding the disposition of church property in the Philippines. Archbishop Corrigan's plan is said to be to turn all the Catholic Church property in the Philippines over to the American hierarchy, in view of the probable permanent annexation of the islands by this country. The plan is to be submitted to Rome by Bourke Cockran, now in Europe.

The President has not decided what course he will finally recommend.

Invited to Kendall Green.

Dr. E. M. Gallaudet of the College for Deaf Mutes at Kendall Green, this morning extended the President an invitation to attend the closing exercises of the institution on May 10. The President has not yet given an answer to the invitation.

Delegates From Press Clubs.

The President today received a large number of the delegates who have been attending the national press conference at the White House. The delegates were from the League of Press Clubs at Baltimore.

Secretary Alger Sees the President.

Secretary Alger went to the White House this afternoon to tell the President something of what he had observed in Cuba and Porto Rico. The Secretary was full of praise for the condition of the forces of this country in those islands. "The general accommodations for the troops are the best I have ever seen," he said. "The hospitals are in splendid shape and are ample for taking care of diseases of all kinds. That is a marvel of a modern institution for sick soldiers."

The Secretary detailed at considerable length what he saw and what he thinks should be done on the islands. He said that no action has been taken for the removal of the regular troops from the island and no time fixed for the occupation of this country.

A Most Unique Invitation.

The most unique invitation ever extended a President has been received at the White House. The invitation is from people of New Orleans for President McKinley to visit the Louisiana industrial exposition. It is on a graphophone cylinder and is a speech from a leading New Orleans man. The cylinder will be placed in the White House graphophone and the voice will communicate to the President personally.

MORTGAGES IN CUBA.

Date for Payment Put Off One Year by the Administration.

Mortgage obligations in Cuba will be further extended for another year. The extension, however, will be limited to debts secured by mortgage or ground rents. The representatives of the Cuban cabinet council who have been here for some days have had several conferences with the administration and turned them over to the adjustment of the plan which had received the sanction of the council, extending mortgage obligations for periods ranging up to six years. They also desired that debtors be relieved entirely from the payment of interest pending final liquidation.

This proposition received the disapproval of the officials, who promptly stated that they could not apply a principle which was distinctly contrary to common justice, and it was suggested to the Cubans that their course would speedily and permanently injure the credit of the island.

To Bring the Troops North.

Camp Meade has been put in condition for the reception of the volunteers in southern camps. It is expected that six regiments will be sent there. The arrangements for recalling all the volunteers in Cuba have been completed, and they are being returned as fast as the transports can make the trips.

Mr. Hilborn's Condition Unchanged.

Ex-Representative Samuel G. Hilborn of California, whose serious illness was announced in yesterday's Star, was removed to Garfield Hospital yesterday afternoon. No marked change was observed in his condition during the night.

Late this afternoon the report from Garfield Hospital was that Mr. Hilborn's condition had undergone no change during the day.

Mr. Baird's Condition Unchanged.

No change in the condition of Representative Baird was reported this afternoon.

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BOOKS ADMITTED

Judge Biddle Overrules Objections of Mr. Quay's Attorneys.

PRIVATE RECORDS IN EVIDENCE

They Contain Accounts of Loans Made to Defendant.

VICTORY FOR PROSECUTION

The sixth day of the trial of ex-United States Senator Quay began with the prospect of a battle royal between the attorneys of the defense and the prosecution over the admission of the "red book," which Expert Meyer Goldsmith yesterday said was undoubtedly a book of the bank.

Mr. Watson, after introducing the general proposition of the defense's objection, turned to the testimony of Goldsmith, and, taking that portion in which an entry for \$3,322.10 in the "red book" was compared with being similar to a like entry in the regular books, said: "The prosecution declares that because of this the book is a book of the bank. A comparison between these items shows a difference of four months in the dates in the two books."

District Attorney Quoted.

"The district attorney himself," Mr. Watson continued, "demonstrates that it is not a book of the bank, but only a memorandum book kept secretly by a cashier who is a party to the alleged conspiracy."

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